

Policy for the Allocation of Research Space
College of Allied Health
The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the allocation and utilization of research space within the College of Allied Health. This policy is complementary to the “Policy for the Allocation of Research Space” as provided by the Provost’s Office of ‘The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center’, June 2008, and subservient to that policy.

There are several models of research, each of which may have specific space needs relative to size and instrumentation. *For the purposes of this policy, **research space is defined as laboratory space used for the performance of research studies within the College of Allied Health building.*** This document does not take into account facilities, including wet laboratory space as located on OUHSC campus, clinical space that may be needed for department specific clinical (involving human subjects) research studies, office space, or the use of common facilities.

I. Principles

- Research space is a limited resource of the campus and is not owned by centers, divisions, departments, or current occupants.
- The **allocation of research space** is the responsibility of the Provost, Vice President for Research (VPR) and respective Deans.
- The **effective utilization of research space** is the responsibility of investigators, department chairs, and the respective administration.
- Space allocations by the Provost, VPR, and Deans should never be considered permanent as they may change with the level of a department’s or individual’s research activity and/or the research priorities of the OUHSC or College. Consequently, the Provost, VPR, and Deans also have the flexibility to consider programmatic issues in their determination of the allocation of research space.
- Investigators who have research space in the College of Allied Health are **expected** to have external funding with accompanying indirect costs (IDC), except as indicted below. In the event that external funding is lost, the investigator will have up to two years to regain funding or will have to move to other departmental allocated space.
- Objective space metrics will be used in the assignment or re-assignment of research space (See Section II).
- The Dean or his/her designee, along with the respective Department Chairperson, is responsible for assigning space in the College of Allied Health.
 1. Funded investigators and new investigators will be given priority for research space in the CAH.
 2. It is expected that investigators assigned research space will have external funding with accompanying indirect costs.
 3. In rare instances, the Dean or his/her designee, and respective Chairperson may allocate research space in the CAH based on programmatic considerations to investigators with limited research funding or to new investigators for a period not to exceed 3 years. After 3 years, those investigators are expected to have received external funding with accompanying IDC.

- Assignment: The level of funding is a strong indication of an investigator's scientific accomplishments, prospects for continued success, and the importance of the research being done.
 1. Consequently, peer reviewed support carries greater weight than non-reviewed support.
 2. Peer reviewed federal funding having full IDC will be considered the most meritorious funding followed by funding from national, regional or local agencies.
- Priorities in the allocation of space will also be given to those investigators whose funded research is in accordance with the priorities of the strategic goals of the OUHSC or the College.
- It is the prerogative of the Dean or his/her designee and respective chairperson to reassign research space that becomes available when an investigator vacates research space, such as upon leaving the CAH, or when research space metrics so indicate.

II. Research Space Metrics

There is a need to apply objective criteria to determine research space allocations to investigators and departments. To that end, the following metrics will be used to analyze faculty research productivity, both at the individual investigator and the departmental level:

- A. Total Award (TA): the sum of direct costs and indirect costs, as the PI, **and/or** the TA of the component of the project as a co-investigator. Projects on no cost extensions should not be included in the total.
- B. Net Assignable Square Feet (NASF): assignable laboratory space that does not include office space or common facilities.
- C. The Research Space Productivity Index (RSPI): the TA of a funded investigator divided by the number of NASF of laboratory space occupied.
- D. Priority for space assignments will be benchmarked to a Research Space Productivity Index (RSPI) and calculated each year.

III. Management Guidelines

- A. Researchers become eligible to lose space when their:
 1. RSPIs are lower than 0.33 (33%) of the benchmark RSPI for CAH;
 2. They have had no external funding for 3 years or
 3. They have a 3-year average of external funding less than 0.33 of the mean Total Award (TA) for the CAH.
 4. Investigators without external funding for 2 years may be notified of the above provisions in the policy, i.e. that they are entering the third year.
- Researchers without IDC as a component of their TA are **eligible** to lose space in deference to researchers with IDC.